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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/725,213	11/29/2000	Kazumi Hamaguchi	1538.1003 (JDH)	6351

21171 7590 02/14/2005

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EXAMINER

ALVAREZ, RAQUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3622

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/725,213

Applicant(s)

HAMAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

Raquel Alvarez

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 2, 9 and 16 are presented for examination.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it contains over 150 words. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
3. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.
4. Amendment filed on 11/29/200. Amended the brief description of the drawings was amended to only include Figures 1, 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D without reference to Figures 3A, 3B, 4-8.

Drawings

5. The drawings figures and the brief description of the drawings do not coincide. Correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 2, 9 and 15 are allowable.

The present invention is directed to a member's registration system in which a

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user pre-stores his personal information and then when he wants to register with a service provider, his information is read from his PC storage device (avoids the re-typing of the information) and it is transmitted to the computer of the service provider's computer. In return the service provider transmits a member identification information and an icon of the retail store and this information is stored in the user's storage device (the service provider publicize their presence in the computer of the customer).

The closest prior art are: Hunt et al.(US 6,496,855) discloses the user using a registration agent web site, RAS as an intermediary to register with service providers. RAS receives the member registration information as well as the member's identification information and passwords for the particular service providers and stores the information received from the service providers.

Article titled "Missing the Internet boat?" by Pete Hisey discloses Online registering users with credit card companies.

Giovannoli (WO 97/31322) discloses broadcasting goods and/or services to buyers who are members of the system. The buyers become members of the system by filling out an application with the system.

With respect to independent claims 2, 9 and 15 the references do not teach "**storing said member identification information in the storage device storing said personal information for the customer in advance; receiving, from said computer**

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of said product or service provider an icon of said product or service provider, and for storing said information concerning said product or service provider and the icon of the product or service provider in the storage device; and displaying, on a display device, an image in which icons of product or service providers, to which said customer has been registered as a member, are located in a virtual town of the said customer.

Conclusion

7. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

The objection to the specification and the drawings as noted above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

Point of contact

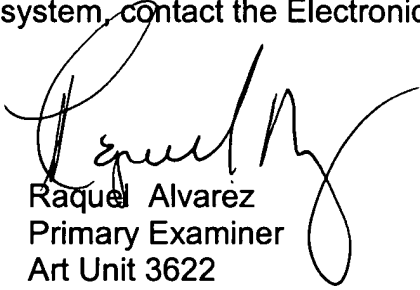
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raquel Alvarez whose telephone number is (703)305-0456. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric w Stamber can be reached on (703)305-8469. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

For the upcoming move to the new Alexandria office, everyone has been assigned new phone and RightFax numbers. My new phone number will be : 571-272-6715, my supervisor's phone number will be: 571-272-6724.. This changes will not happen until April 2005 (or later) and therefore our current numbers are still in service until the move.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Raquel Alvarez
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3622

R.A.
2/8/05